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PORTO RICO.

Reports from Ponce.

PONCE, P. R., *August 20, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended August 13, 1900.

During the week the Spanish steamer *Isla de Panay* was held in quarantine but allowed to transact her small amount of business under supervision. Vessels of this line are among the most dangerous to this port as they touch several infected or suspected ports before coming to this port.

The improvements to the disinfecting room have been completed, doubling the capacity of the room. On each side there are now 15 compartments, 4 by 3 by 3, built of substantial pine slats, thus permitting free circulation of the disinfecting agent. In each of these, hooks were placed for hanging up certain articles.

Sanitary conditions of Ponce show practically no change.

Respectfully, W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

PONCE, P. R., *August 27, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the weekly quarantine and abstract of bills of health reports for the week ended August 25, 1900. I also inclose mortality statistics for the two weeks ended on the same date.

Nothing of special interest has occurred in shipping or quarantine circles, no quarantinable diseases having appeared here.

The mortality figures continue to increase, but these deaths are chiefly among the lower classes, the others being in fair general health.

Respectfully, W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

[Inclosure.]

Number and causes of deaths in Ponce jurisdiction (city, playa, and surrounding country), during the two weeks ended August 25, 1900.

Infectious diseases—	
Malarial fever	30
Pernicious malarial fever	3
Dysentery	23
Tuberculosis	11
Gangrene of the scrotum	1
Tetanus, neo-natorum	1
Diseases of the digestive apparatus	123
Diseases of the respiratory system	11
Diseases of the nervous system	8
Diseases of the circulatory system	1
Other diseases (anæmia, inanition, etc.)	100
Total deaths from all causes	312
Births during the same period	40